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Hampshire
Department of
Education**

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Messages From the Department of Education

January 2015

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ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

A. New Information Posted To the Smarter Balanced Website

New resources are now available on the Smarter Balanced web site. The Practice and Training Test page (<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>) now includes an Elementary Writing Factsheet that provides an overview of the assessment and scoring of writing in grades 3-5 on the summative assessment. The Interim Assessments (<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/interim-assessments/>) page now includes an updated Interim Assessment Statement of Purpose.

Contact: Scott Mantie, Ph.D., (603) 271-3844 Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

B. Testing Window for Spring 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment Administration

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Testing Window will open statewide on Monday, March 16, 2015. The window is 12 calendar weeks and will end on Friday, June 5, 2015. All assessments must be completed by grade spans within the 12 week window; however you do not need to take the whole 12 weeks if you are able to test in a shorter span using the overlapping week schedule described below. The grade spans within the window are:

- Grades 3 & 4 during weeks 1-6
- Grades 5 & 6 during weeks 3-8
- Grades 7, 8, & 11 during weeks 5-12

Contact: Scott Mantie, Ph.D., (603) 271-3844 Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

C. CCSS Forward

CCSS Forward, a section of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Web site, is designed to provide updates on new resources and shine a spotlight on state leadership with Common Core State Standards implementation. It can be found at http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS_Foward_State_Resources_and_Success_Stories_to_Implement_the_Common_Core.html.

CERTIFICATION

A. Educator Testing

Beginning on January 1, 2015, certain testing exemptions are no longer available. Educators with Master's Degrees will be taking the same licensure exams as those with Bachelor's Degrees.

Contact: Lisa Landenberger, (603) 271-0072, Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov

B. HQT Data and Educator Assignments

HQT data from 2013-14 is included in the CSPR I (Consolidated State Performance Report) which is submitted to the US Department of Education. The final, corrected submission will be due at the end of February. There are still outstanding issues with this data in the Educator Information System (EIS) that need to be addressed.

All states, including New Hampshire, will be completing an analysis of equitable distribution of teachers across schools and districts this spring. The process will include extracting data from the EIS. Data points in the analysis will include HQT status, years of experience, and teaching outside the area(s) of endorsement. Accuracy in EIS is necessary for drawing the correct conclusions from the information.

Please contact us if you need assistance with data uploads, educator assignments, or HQT validation.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

C. Name Changes

Educators who change their name need to contact the Bureau of Credentialing (BOC). A form is available on the Web site at http://education.nh.gov/certification/cred_forms.htm. Address changes may be done online by the educator but name changes need to be entered by BOC personnel. Providing these updates in advance will help out during the renewal season.

Contact: Lisa Landenberger, (603) 271-0072, Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov

DATA

A. i4see Data

a) BOY 2014-2015 (Beginning of Year):

All districts are certified for the BOY 2015. If your district has not already done so, please sign and send the BOY Reports entitled "High School Dropouts," "High School Completers," and "2014 Cohort Report."

b) Other data issues

- Please be sure that the Real Time Entry and Withdrawal for High School Students is now in progress. i4see Contacts will be notified by e-mail of any students who withdrew from another NH public high school to transfer into their public high school.
- Course and Class submissions should be completed for all public schools in NH. If you need any assistance, please e-mail us at i4see.help@doe.nh.gov.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, Sandy.Hyslop@doe.nh.gov

B. PerformancePLUS

a) Free Half Day Trainings

Use PerformancePLUS to help your school become more data driven. These beginner-level, half day trainings will focus on key components of P+ related to student performance, such as student detail page, interventions, Content Library, Individual Learning Plans, interventions and reporting. Four hour sessions include working with reports, while three hour sessions do not include working with reports.

Training dates and times:

- January 23rd - 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the DOE in room 15 (includes reports)
- January 26th - 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Walker Building on Fruit Street
- January 27th - 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Walker Building (includes reports)
- January 27th - 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Walker Building

Due to space limitations please use this link to register:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J3XXVME>. For information on these trainings, please contact our Data Coach Cyndy Currier ccurrier@mac.com

b) Online Assessment (OLA) Module

The OLA module in P+ now has the capacity to handle open-ended short answer questions, and multiple correct answer questions. This will make taking assessments online in P+ more similar to the Smarter Balanced experience.

Contact Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov

c) Using Local Assessments To Improve Instruction

The NHDOE data team can help you develop local NH College and Career Ready State Standards aligned common assessments for reading, writing or math. We will work with your school to input the data from those assessments into PerformancePLUS, then guide data teams in their analysis of the data to improve instruction. There is no cost to the schools for this support.

Contact Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov

GRANTS and REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

ALL RFPs Can be Found on the Department Web site at
www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm

A. Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals

This request for proposals is for projects that will increase teacher knowledge of core subject matter and effective instructional strategies, and be designed to document application of the knowledge and pedagogy in the classroom to increase student achievement. Projects may include the development of core content knowledge for principals and assistant principals (as appropriate) to serve as effective school leaders. The State agencies for higher education (SAHEs) develop criteria for awarding subgrants to eligible partnerships comprised of at least (1) one institution of higher education (IHE), including its division that prepares teachers and principals, (2) one school of arts and sciences, and (3) one high-need local education agency (LEA). The partnerships use the funds to conduct professional development activities in core academic subjects to ensure that teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, and (if appropriate) principals have a deep understanding of content including computer-related technology to enhance instruction. The purpose of these grants is to increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools and districts improve teacher instruction and principal quality in terms of instructional leadership. Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 20, 2015.

Contact: Ashley Frame, (603) 271-6579, Ashley.Frame@doe.nh.gov

B. Program Year (PY) 15 & 16 In-School Youth and Out-of-School Youth

The purpose of these RFPs is to identify appropriate service provider(s) to provide employment and training services. Youth activities for PY 15 and PY16 (4/1/2015- 6/30/17) are contingent on annual funding and evaluation of successful performance. Due Date: January 20, 2015 Noon (12:00 EST)

All questions and requests for clarification should be submitted in writing to Kim Runion, Administrator, NH Department of Education, Bureau of Youth Workforce, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20, Concord, NH 03301, e-mail: Kim.Runion@doe.nh.gov.

HEARINGS

A. Ed 506.05, Ed 614.13 and Ed 505.03(c), Curriculum Administrator

A public hearing will be held February 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Department of Education 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, 03301. Deadline for written comment will be March 4, 2015.

B. Ed 1200, Child Restraint

Public hearings will be held February 18, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. and February 19, 2015 from 5:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. at the Department of Education 101 Pleasant Street, Concord NH 03301. Deadline for written comment will be March 4, 2015.

Contact: Mary Mayo, (603) 271-3189, Mary.Mayo@doe.nh.gov

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. High School Redesign in Action

High School Redesign in Action is the New England Secondary School Consortium's sixth annual conference for educators to share success stories, exchange best practices, and continue to build momentum for innovations that will prepare all students for success in the colleges, careers, and communities of the 21st century. This conference will take place Thursday and Friday, March 26-27, 2015, at the Four Points by Sheraton in Norwood, Massachusetts. To register or for more information go to http://newenglandssc.org/conference/conference_details or contact Becky Vance, at rvance@greatschoolspartnership.org or (207) 773-0505.

B. NEA-NH Spring Conference – Save the Date

The NEA-NH Spring Instructional Conference will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015. Information will be posted at www.neanh.org or contact Allison (Ally) Snyder at asnyder@nhnea.org.

C. NHDOE Title III/ESOL Office & Accountability and Assessment Department

- a. WIDA ELD Standards in Action: Unit Planning - January 28 & 29, 2015, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Plymouth State University, 2 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH, 5th Floor**

Participants will utilize resources from the WIDA ELD Standards Framework to plan units of instruction which integrate content and language standards. In school teams, participants will engage in identifying the academic language demands embedded in state content standards, planning and designing a custom unit of instruction, identifying ways to support and differentiate for language development; and planning and designing methods for formative language assessment. Teams will have ample opportunities for developing materials; therefore, participants are encouraged to bring curriculum materials and student ACCESS for ELLs scores. For more information or to register please go to <http://goo.gl/FkbAEh>.

b. Leadership Support for Collaboration and Co-teaching - March 2, 2015, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Local Government Center, 25 Triangle Park, Concord, NH

One of the 21st century competencies proclaimed by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills is collaboration. This all-day workshop takes a broad-based look at what effective teacher collaboration looks like, what essential frameworks need to be established for ESL and mainstream teachers to work together, and how administrators, coaches and teacher leaders can support an integrated approach to ESL services. For more information or to register please go to <http://goo.gl/3kSqOj>.

D. OPEN NH Self-Paced Tutorials

a) Bullying Awareness and Prevention (a 3-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

This tutorial costs \$10.00 and covers basic issues surrounding bullying, the impact of cyberbullying, and the requirements of the New Hampshire Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for 3 hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit www.regonline.com/bullyingtutorial.

b) The NH 3 Tiered Bullying Prevention and Intervention Model (a 5-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

This tutorial costs \$25.00 and covers the three tiers: general prevention, at-risk intervention, and targeting of severe needs. The characteristics of an effective bullying prevention program are also covered. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for 5 hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/nh3tierbullying>. A complete 7-week course is also available through OPEN NH, and will be offered in future OPEN NH course sessions, or by special district cohort request.

c) Substitute Teaching: Tools and Tips for Success (a 5-hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

In an effort to assist schools in preparing potential substitute teachers for teaching in NH schools, the NH e-Learning for Educators, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education, is offering a short online tutorial through OPEN NH. This tutorial costs \$25.00 and provides basic knowledge and skills necessary for being an effective substitute teacher. Proper preparation before substituting in a school or district will greatly increase the confidence and comfort level of substitute teachers working with students in the classroom. The tutorial provides a brief overlook of the situation in education today and prepares potential substitutes with an understanding of how teachers and students interact in our changing educational landscape. Basic skills and techniques for teaching lessons to students along with some strategies for managing behavioral issues are explored. Finally, the tutorial covers a basic understanding of the kinds of policies and procedures that schools must operate under, including the NH pupil safety policy involving bullying. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/substitutetutorial>.

d) Ten Technology Skills for Learning and Teaching (a 15-hour self-paced tutorial)

Students in the 21st Century must be creative and resourceful critical thinkers, effective problem-solvers, and life-long learners. In order for students to be successful learners that have these skills, teachers must be effective and relevant in their learning and teaching. They must be groundbreaking pioneers and visionary leaders in their schools

and communities. Pioneering leaders model good practices in their ability to use today's tools and technologies productively, understand how to access and use information effectively, and commit to be active collaborators in our global society. With so much to do every day, teachers often fall behind with their desires to keep up to date with the newest technologies and practices. Lack of skills and basic understanding can often be frustrating and prevent you from using current technologies effectively. In this OPEN NH tutorial, you will explore some basic skills necessary for effective use of technologies in the digital age. You will examine ten basic technology skills that can help you improve how you understand and use technology, from basic hardware and productivity tools to web browsers and software applications. This self-paced tutorial costs \$75.00 and will allow you to explore these skills in your own time, and at your own pace, to help increase your comfort level as you move from novice to beginner. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/tentechskills>.

Districts may register cohorts of teachers in either or both tutorials at reduced cohort registration rates. For more information, visit www.opennh.org or contact the OPEN NH Project Coordinator.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov

E. OPEN NH Online Professional Development Courses

Registrations are now being accepted for the Winter Session of OPEN NH courses. The seven week, 35 hour online professional development courses begin on February 4th and continue through March 21st. The registration fee for OPEN NH professional development courses is \$130, with early bird fee of \$120 in effect through January 20th. Districts can also request the special delivery of any of our courses over a 7-8 week time frame of their choice. To request a special delivery course, a designated team leader should complete a Special Course Delivery Registration form, available online, and send it to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator for processing, or contact the coordinator.

OPEN NH offers a variety of group discounts for SAUs, districts, or schools. Deals include 25 seats in our seven week 35 hour online professional development courses for \$2,625 or four seats for two teachers for \$440. The list of OPEN NH professional development courses offered during the upcoming OPEN NH sessions can be found on the Web site at: www.opennh.org.

Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University at an additional cost of \$185 plus a \$30 registration fee. OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov

RESOURCES

A. NH Alerts Mobile App

The New Hampshire Department of Safety launched its NH Alerts mobile app, a free tool that notifies users of hazards in the area based upon cellphone location. The NH Alerts app was developed by the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management with federal grants. Anyone with the NH Alerts app on their phone will know about safety issues in their

area, from accidents and road closures, to hazardous weather and active shooters. You can download the app by visiting <http://www.readynh.gov/alerts/index.htm>.

OTHER

NH Teacher of the Year Nominations

Superintendents, principals, teachers, school staff members, teacher organizations, parents, and others interested in New Hampshire schools are encouraged to nominate an outstanding teacher by submitting their request to the New Hampshire Department of Education (NH DOE) by February 17, 2015. A Teacher of the Year candidate should be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled person from any state-approved or accredited school, pre-kindergarten through grade twelve, who demonstrates leadership and intends to continue in the teaching profession. The purpose of the program is to select a teacher who is worthy of speaking for and energizing the teaching profession, and representing the positive contributions of all teachers statewide. Selecting a Teacher of the Year is an exceptional way to celebrate the many outstanding and dedicated people teaching in New Hampshire schools. Teacher of the Year nomination applications can be downloaded from the DOE Web site at www.education.nh.gov/recognition/toy.htm. Nominees must submit their applications to the NH DOE by March 19, 2015. All nominees who submit the required information will be honored at a ceremony in April.

Contact: Lori Temple, (603) 271-6646, Lori.Temple@doe.nh.gov

Afterschool Awards

This year two new afterschool awards are being included in the Child Development Bureau's 2015 Early Childhood and Afterschool Celebration on April 14, 2015. The **Thad Mandsager Award** is to honor the late 21st Century Community Learning Center Program Director, Thad Mandsager, for his legacy of civic contributions for the greater good of the youth and families in his community. Additionally, the **NHAN (New Hampshire Afterschool Network) Excellence in Afterschool Award** celebrates a commitment to quality and professionalism in the field of afterschool. If you know someone worthy of one of these awards please complete a nomination form here: www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title_iv_b.htm. Nominations will be accepted if submitted electronically or postmarked on or before Friday, February 6, 2015.

Contact: Suzanne Birdsall-Stone, (603) 520-6263, Suzanne.Birdsall-Stone@doe.nh.gov

NH School Nurse of the Year

This award recognizes an outstanding school nurse for his/her contributions to the school and community. To be eligible for this award your school nurse must meet the following criteria:

- is a registered professional nurse
- has been practicing school nursing for a minimum of three (3) years
- is a member of the New Hampshire School Nurses' Association (NHSNA) this year and the prior year without lapse of membership
- show evidence of excellence in school nursing practice.

Nomination forms can be accessed online at the NHSNA web page (www.nhschoolnurses.org) or by contacting Cathy Forrest at cforrest@conval.edu. Deadline for nominations is February 1, 2015.

Drive Smart: No Distractions, No Excuses, Teen PSA Contest

Who better than teens to come up with a way to convince other teens not to drive distracted? Have students ages 13-18 create a PSA persuading other teens to drive smart and not use wireless devices behind the wheel. Teens can enter their PSAs in the Wireless Foundation Drive Smart Challenge for a chance to win amazing prizes, including a \$5,000 scholarship. Teachers can also win up to \$500. To enter or for more information go to <http://drivesmartnow.com/about-the-contest>. Deadline to enter is January 30, 2015.

LifeChanger of the Year

LifeChanger of the Year is an annual program that recognizes and rewards K-12 educators and school employees from around the country. A LifeChanger could be a math teacher who stays after school to tutor struggling students, a guidance counselor who encourages every student to reach their full potential, or a custodian who offers encouraging words. This program aims to honor those who are making a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Nominating them for LifeChanger of the Year is a great way to recognize them, and give them the chance to win \$10,000. Nominations will be accepted until January 31, 2015. To nominate someone or for more information go to <http://lifechangeroftheyearnominees.com>.

National Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Poster Contest

CPSC is sponsoring a nationwide carbon monoxide safety poster contest to help warn people about the dangers of CO. The contest is open to U.S. residents in grades six, seven, or eight. Posters must be created by the middle school student, on the student's own, without help from family, friends, or others. A few years ago an 11 year old from Merrimack, NH won the runner-up place in the contest. We would love to see more artists from New Hampshire get involved and perhaps win the contest. CO and the importance of CO alarms has been a focus for a campaign throughout the country and in New Hampshire. To enter or for more information go to www.cpsc.gov/cocontest. All entries must be received no later than February 27, 2015.

MoMath's 2015 Pi Day competition is now accepting submissions!

Share your love of pi! Write and record pi-themed lyrics, create a limerick about pi, or send in a pi-ku, and you could win MoMath's 2015 Pi Day contest. The contest will run through February 21, so start brainstorming! See more details and submit your entries at piday2015.momath.org.

Aerospace Dimensions Workshops

Winn Aero, the STEM-oriented educational non-profit organization, has announced its upcoming winter-spring series of Teacher Workshops. Aerospace Dimension's six sessions will run from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Terminal Building of Laconia Airport. The workshops are based on the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Aerospace Education modules. The six sessions are:

- January 24, Introduction to Flight
- February 7, Aircraft Systems and Airports
- March 7, Air Environment

- March 21, Rockets
- April 4, Space Environment
- April 18, Spacecraft

These hands-on workshops will provide instructors a first person perspective of the engaging, technical content throughout this curriculum. Attendees will also learn about grant organizations which can support implementation of the subject matter into the classroom. Teachers may sign up for the full schedule or choose specific content of interest.

The registration fee for teachers who are already Aerospace Education Members of CAP is \$40. Non-members pay \$75 for their first workshop and then \$40 for all subsequent workshops. Registration forms and additional information are on-line at <http://www.winnaero.org/#!teachers-workshops/c1o14> or by contacting Caron directly at dwcaron@hotmail.com. Seating is limited.

Professional Development at Southeastern Regional Education Service Center SERESC
SERESC in Bedford, NH, is presenting the following Professional Development events:

- Autism Topics
Supporting and Enhancing Social Development is taking place January 30, 2015 and is designed for professionals, paraprofessionals, and family members who already have basic knowledge of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). To register or for more information go to www.smores.com/1bwqn.
What's Love Got to Do With It? is taking place February 12, 2015 and is appropriate for parents, professionals, and paraprofessionals who have working knowledge of Autism Spectrum Disorders and common strategies for teaching social cognition and communication. To register or for more information go to www.smores.com/kd4n0.
- Tiered Support for ELA Standards K-8 with Shannon Harken is taking place January 21 and 22, 2015. To register or for more information go to www.smores.com/jsy4m.
- Comprehension-Primary Grades; The Key Comprehension Routine from Keys to Literacy is taking place January 21, 2015. This one-day workshop experience will provide an overview of comprehension strategies and activities for grades K-3 that emphasize the integration of listening, reading, and writing as students develop their ability to think about, organize, and communicate their understanding of what has been "read, said, or done." To register or for more information go to www.smores.com/w0xz7.

Please contact Sabrina Bryant Sabrina@seresc.net, or Amantha Moore Amantha@seresc.net or call SERESC, (603) 206-6800 with any questions.

Think Global Conference

The World Affairs Council of New Hampshire presents the Think Global Conference, a free day-long conference where high school students will learn about opportunities for a global future. Students can also participate in the afternoon competition – Academic WorldQuest – to test their knowledge of world affairs and global issues. This conference will take place March 7, 2015 at Southern NH University. To register or for more information go to www.wacnh.org/education.